

MEETING TITLE: Vaccine Advisory Committee (VAC) Quarterly Meeting

DATE: January 13, 2005

Attendees:

Janna Bardi	Department of Health (DOH) Immunization Program Manager
David Bibus	Public Health Seattle & King County
Maureen Brown	Washington Chapter, American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
Carolyn Coyne	Medical Assistance Administration
Jeff Duchin	Public Health Seattle & King County
Jay Fathi	Washington Chapter, AAFP
Maxine Hayes	DOH State Health Officer
Patty Hayes	DOH Assistant Secretary, Community and Family Health
Jan Hicks-Thomson	DOH Immunization Program
Donna Larsen	Snohomish Health District
Ed Marcuse	VAC Consultant
Zachary Miller	VAC Consultant
Carlos Quintanilla	DOH Immunization Program
Ed Steinweg	VAC Consultant
Greg Stern	Health Officer, Whatcom County Health and Human Services Department
Kim Thorburn	Health Officer, Spokane Regional Health District
Lin Watson	DOH Immunization Program
Donna Zimburean	Washington Chapter Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

Recorder:

Claire Norby	DOH Immunization Program
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Agenda Items	Discussion/Recommendations	Decisions Made/Follow-Up Completed
Welcome and Introductions, Changes to Agenda Maxine Hayes	<p>Dr. Maxine Hayes welcomed meeting attendees and visitors. She proposed that the Committee discuss future agenda items for the year's meetings.</p> <p>Visitors included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juli Coburn, Wyeth Vaccines • Steven Frawley, Aventis Pasteur • Larry Barge, GlaxoSmithKline • Paul Nielsen, MedImmune • Jill Nuss, GlaxoSmithKline • Kurt Stembridge, GlaxoSmithKline • Marcie Cleaver, Merck Vaccines, • Chris Shattenkerk, GlaxoSmithKline • Cynthia Shurtleff, Washington IACW • Pat Wiseman, MedImmune • Adrienne Conlin, Aventis Pasteur • Kip Bagett, PHSKC • Cindy Smith Tacoma Pierce County Health Department • Vicki Austin, Merck Vaccines • Jennifer Erwin, MedImmune <p>Dr. Hayes also noted an outbreak of influenza-like illness at the Grant County Job Corps Center, affecting 250 people. Specimens were undergoing laboratory analysis.</p>	
Conflict of Interest Policy Patty Hayes	<p>The Conflict of Interest policy was read. No conflicts were noted.</p> <p>Handouts: WA State VAC Conflict of Interest Policy dated 1/24/02</p>	

Influenza Vaccine Shortage Janna Bardi	<p>DOH has been very busy coordinating the response to the influenza vaccine shortage. DOH convened a team to strategize and respond to the shortage. Other responses included weekly conference calls with LHJs to share information and obtain feedback, and issuance of news releases and public service announcements, DOH recommended expanding the age of those eligible to received influenza vaccine to 50 years and older. As of today, 1/13/05, the restrictions have been lifted. We have now returned to the October ACIP recommendations. There are still some restrictions on VFC vaccine. The hope is that lifted restrictions will rekindle public interest in getting influenza vaccine.</p> <p>Handouts: Immunization Program Updates, 1/13/05, 'Nothing easy' in flu season - The lessons of vaccine supply and demand are settling in, by Anita Manning, USA TODAY</p>	<p>DOH reviewed and found no discrepancy in information released by DOH in November compared to the October ACIP recommendations.</p>
State Vaccine Supply Jan Hicks-Thomson	<p>DOH has received all requested influenza vaccine. As of 1/13/05, there were 40,000 doses at the DOH distribution center. DOH issued a press release stating encouraging people who want vaccine to contact their local health department for information on where to obtain it.</p>	
State Board of Health, WAC Rule Revision Housekeeping Status Janna Bardi	<p>Immunization Program staff have completed recommendations will submitted them at the State Board of Health (SBOH) hearing in March.</p>	
Varicella School and Childcare Entry Requirement Maxine Hayes Patty Hayes	<p>The VAC has not recommended that varicella vaccine be required for school and childcare entry. Due to low varicella immunization coverage rates, an ACIP recommendation, and the work initiated with the SBOH regarding varicella vaccine requirements, Dr. Hayes asked the VAC to consider an official recommendation that varicella vaccine be required for school and childcare entry. Dr. Marcuse moved that the varicella vaccine be added to the Washington State Child Care and School entry Requirements consistent with ACIP recommendations. Dr. Fathi seconded the motion.</p>	

	Discussion followed: Dr. Miller said that fiscal impact must be considered. The VAC unanimously voted to approve the motion.	
Vaccine Management Packet for 2005-2007 Biennium Janna Bardi	Twice a year DOH is required to report to the Ways and Means Committee of the Legislature. DOH provides information to update the Legislature and alert it to future issues. With the new administration, it is assumed that DOH will continue to provide the updates twice a year. The Immunization Program develops a Management Packet that includes projections for vaccine expenditures from all funding sources. The Packet contains any anticipated vaccine funding shortfalls or surpluses, from any of the three funding sources (VFC, 317, and State). The Packet goes through extensive review before it's submission to the legislative committee.	The Management Packet was forwarded to the Ways and Means Committee on January xx, 2005.
CDC's Vaccine Management Business Improvement Project Janna Bardi	<p>DOH is exploring the possibility of providing healthcare providers with vaccine choice. Vaccine choice will be piloted with a small provider cohort. The current system is a competitive process and has not included the more recently available combination vaccines. CDC suggested this change in policy during a site visit last year.</p> <p>CDC has been spearheading a new vaccine funding and distribution system. The proposed system entails shipping vaccine from the manufacturers to approximately six distribution centers. The distribution centers will then ship the vaccine directly to the provider. This will negate the need for state, county and local vaccine depots. CDC projects an annual, national savings of as much as \$35 million and less vaccine wastage due to fewer steps in the distribution process. State Programs will retain involvement in the ordering process, via monitoring of provider orders. Also, state and local immunization programs will be expected to provide more quality assurance to providers, utilizing the funds saved by the new system. The Washington State Immunization Program has asked to be a pilot site. The Program should know its pilot status this Spring. CDC will conduct pilot efforts through 2006, with nationwide implementation anticipated by the end of 2007.</p>	DOH will keep the VAC updated on developments in this area.

	<p>Comments from committee members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many providers will not have the expertise for or interest in choosing vaccine; busy providers likely prefer using what has been selected by the Immunization Program • Concern that providers will choose more expensive vaccines and that this may not be discovered in the pilot process • Does vaccine choice affect immunization rates? 	
<p>House Healthcare Work Session on Immunization Coverage rates Patty Hayes</p>	<p>The House Healthcare Committee will meet to discuss low immunization rates in Washington State. There is an assumption that if Washington State's exemption clause has made it too easy for parents to opt out of vaccination, which adversely affects coverage rates. DOH will have a two-hour session to update the Committee. The Healthcare Committee originally wanted information on exemptions, but has decided to hear about immunization rates. Dr. Marcuse will represent the VAC at this meeting and wanted to ensure that the VAC was in agreement about the issues.</p> <p>Comments from committee members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a link between a child having a medical home in the first two years of life and higher immunization rates. • Social/economic factors may have an effect • Are coverage rates different in rural vs. urban settings? • It's good that low coverage rates are being addressed at this level 	<p>Lin Watson will ask Riley Peters, DOH Assessment, if a study on rural vs. urban immunizations rates has been done.</p>
<p>Visitors – Open Microphone Maxine Hayes</p>	<p>Steve Frawley, Kurt Stembridge, and Marcie Cleaver each expressed their support for vaccine choice</p>	
<p>Additional Agenda Items Patty Hayes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Immunization rates 2. Adult immunization, specifically in vaccine shortage scenarios 3. Prioritizing vaccine delivery during a shortage 4. Registry - how use uptake affects coverage rates, efficiency, 	<p>The Immunization Program will prioritize the list with input from the VAC.</p>

	<p>inventory management</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Washington State's vaccine-preventable disease status (should be done after year's end) 6. Pandemic influenza planning briefing 7. Hepatitis A 8. Anthrax vaccine/Anthrax Detection Systems used by the Postal Service 9. Fear of vaccines in general. What is our response? 10. What do we know about exemptions around the state? 11. Horizon vaccines, particularly adult and adolescent pertussis 12. Universal vaccine distribution, the effect of adding new vaccines 13. Public/private partnership role as new vaccines are added 14. LHJ infrastructure funding 15. Disease reporting 16. Provider understanding of vaccine choice: state-supplied vs. private purchase 17. Formation of working groups within the VAC to address specific issues 	
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The next VAC meeting will be held at the Sea-Tac Marriott on **April 14, 2005 from 11:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.**